

Adult Sunday School (1 Peter) Lesson 10

1 Pet 5:1-5: Shepherding the Flock

29 June 2025

Introduction

- The climactic directive in 1 Pet 4:19
- Peter's intense pastoral burden: to instruct, to comfort and exhort the believers in Asia Minor in the midst of present sufferings and in light of future sufferings for the sake of Christ
- Christ as the supreme example in our suffering
 - We rejoice in the gospel of our salvation – "*strength returns as light is given, so to look at Christ on high*"
- Peter's example as an under-shepherd feeding the flock (Jn 21:17)

1. The address to elders (v1)

- An address given in the midst of the congregation
- The office of an elder (Acts 14:23)
- Peter as a fellow elder
- The link between suffering and glory (Lk 24:26, Jn 14:26)

2. The duty of elders (v2)

- The chief and primary calling of elders – feed the flock of God (Jer 3:15, 2 Tim 4:1,2, Acts 20:32)
- Elders are to pastor the flock and tend to the sheep (Jn 21:15-17; Prov 27:23)
- The flock belongs to God (Acts 20:28b)

- Elders are to carry out their duty not by compulsion, but out of sincere desire
 - Not for shameful gain, but eagerly (1 Thess 2:8)
- Elders shepherd out of love for the flock

3. The required disposition of elders (v3)

- Not exercising dominion over the flock, but to serve as being below them (Matt 20:25-28)
- Being examples to the flock
 - Demonstrating their love for the flock (1 Thess 2:10,12)
 - Not perfectness, but modeling spiritual growth (1 Tim 4:12,15)

4. The reward for faithful elders (v4)

- A lasting reward
- The encouragement to faithful elders
- The crown of glory (1 Thess 2:19-20)
- The parent's and pastor's joy (3 John 4)
- Leading the flock to the chief shepherd

5. The duty of church members (v5)

- Submission to elders of the church (Heb 13:17)
 - Gratitude for God's gifts to the church
 - God's design for orderliness in the church (1 Tim 3:15; Titus 1:5)
- Duty of all to submit one to another
 - Being clothed with humility (Jn 13:4)

Additional Notes: